

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-5 and 19 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 4 have been amended and claim 19 is newly-added. Claims 2-3 and 6-18 have been canceled.

Regarding the Issue Fee payment, please note that Applicant intends to apply such payment toward any Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due received in the future.

The drawings have been objected to for failing to show the "proximity sensors" and "fluctuation detecting" unit recited in claims 15 and 18, as well as the "save mechanism" recited in claim 16.

Applicants respectfully submit that the "proximity sensors" are the same as the "distance sensors 32," as shown in FIG. 11 and as disclosed on page 20, line 18 of the specification.

The Examiner has rejected the claims as follows:

1. Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sasaki, Shimizu et al., Osaki et al. (all previously applied) and further in view of Hoppe et al. (IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory);
2. Claims 3, 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sasaki, Shimizu et al., Osaki et al., and Hoppe et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,368,924 to Merrill et al. (hereafter Merrill et al.);
3. Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sasaki, Shimizu et al., Osaki et al., Hoppe et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent 6, 983,516 to Dammig et al. (hereafter "Dammig et al.");

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

All of these references have been discussed in Applicants' response of June 6, 2007, except for newly-applied Hoppe et al., Merrill et al., and Dammig et al..

Hoppe et al. has been cited for teaching that the water content of a specimen can be found by taking the ratio of the differentials $\Delta f/\Delta P$.

Merrill et al. has been cited for teaching a coated glass fabric compound of a plurality of coated layers.

Dammig et al. has been cited for teaching the use of stored temperature dependency curves to calculate moisture content of a sample, as well as a microprocessor which corrects a resonant peak measurement.

None of the cited references either discussed above or in Applicants' previous response, teach, mention or suggest that the resonance peak which occurs when the specimen is present in the slot has a lower Q value than the resonance peak which occurs when the specimen is not present in the slot, as disclosed on page 6, line 24 to page 7, line 1 of the specification, and as shown in FIG. 4

Furthermore, the present invention, as found in claims 3 and 4, is based on the fact that the moisture content of each coat layer or a substrate can be determined independently of each other, which is not taught, mentioned or suggested by any of the cited references.

Accordingly, claim 3 has been canceled and its limitations added to claim 1, and claim 4 has been amended to be in independent form.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1, 4-5 and 19, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is respectfully solicited.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Dated: July 14, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By Wiley L. Brooks
William L. Brooks
Registration No.: 34,129
EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP
P.O. Box 55874
Boston, Massachusetts 02205
(202) 478-7376
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant